



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2021
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Greg Wharton, Mayor
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem
Robert Smith, Councilmember, Secretary

Jim Nelson, Councilmember, Treasurer
Rodney Thompson, Councilmember
Zac Carroll, Councilmember

and all said persons were present thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were Wendy Smith and Linda Lunney, Village of The Hills; Officer Christian Oehler, Angela Beck and Tom Stiles, POA.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of January 12, 2021 Regular Meeting

2. Finance/Treasurer's Report for January 12, 2021

Treasurer Nelson reported that real estate taxes were a little slow this year, coming in at only 90% so far.

3. Quarterly Investment Report October-December 2020

Treasurer Nelson moved approval of the Consent Agenda; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Law Enforcement

Officer Oehler reviewed the written report showing: 4 Citation, 16 Warnings; of which 1 were residents and 17 visitors. Violations were for defective brake lights, expired registrations, stop sign, failure to update address and speeding. There were 3 house check patrols. Office Oehler was asked to keep an eye out for vehicles driving on the walking trail.

Treasurer Nelson suggested that a notice be put out to residents reminding them that any non-violent crime should be reported to the non-emergency number to make a report.

2. POA Liaison

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reviewed her written report on two meeting held in January including:

ANNUAL MEETING

- Rhonda Spears is the new Property Manager
- Moving the Manager's Office into one of the Guard houses is being considered for cost saving
- 24 new pools this year vs an average of 4 per year in previous years
- Haden Alvey and Brian Peters were voted in as new members of the board
- Both amendments – Mandatory membership and open fires/fireplaces failed to pass

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

POA Officers: Board President – Jim Vick
Vice President - Tom Stiles
Treasurer – Rick VanDalen
Secretary – Brian Peters

The Mayor Pro Tem also stated the POA would like to partner with the MUD and the Village on a welcome committee to distribute materials from each entity.

3. MUD Liaison

Treasurer Nelson reported on the most recent meeting:

- The Audit for 2019-2020 was delivered without exceptions
- Master Drainage Plan update and revisions are still in process. The update is to introduce more additional drainage ditch design options
- Concern was expressed that larger quantities of leaves in the drainage ditches indicating that owners and landscapers are not bagging leaves as required by the POA.
- Homeland Security upgrades are progressing. The new automatic sliding gate is installed and operational. The last phase is to make all facility gate locks automatic.
- The February 15th meeting has been moved to Monday, February 22nd

4. Park Liaison

There was no meeting. The landscape timbers have been replaced in the slide fall zone.

5. City Manager's Report

Wendy Smith informed the Council the letter informing residents of the maintenance of the FenceCrete Fence will be going out within the next few days. The Mayor discussed with the POA putting resident maintenance of the fence into the Architectural Rules with the POA.

6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Wharton reported on meeting with local officials. The meeting with the Lakeway Mayor has been rescheduled for later in the month. Treasurer Nelson informed the council of construction that will be started on the property across from the Lohmans Gate and suggested that someone from the Village be involved in any discussions with the developer and Lakeway.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action on Disaster Declarations, Travis County Orders, and the Governor's Executive Orders

The City will continue in alignment with the Governor's Executive orders for the next 30 days. Although COVID rates are down in Travis County, neighboring counties remain in the highest stages.

Councilmember Carroll moved to continue alignment with the Governor's Executive orders; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2. Discussion and possible action on the Strategic Plan Committee update

Treasurer Nelson reviewed the plan updates for 2021. The committee met two times. All the current action items are broken down to the following ratings: In process, needs review, and closed. The Council was asked to review the list and give feedback to the committee as to their top concerns. The Mayor suggested ranking initiatives as critical, ease, expense, time frame, and resources. The Council will have a brief high level discussion on the top five initiatives at the next meeting.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding a community engagement initiative

Wendy Smith reported the new helpdesk email license has been ordered through IT, and the web designer is working with her team to determine if we need custom changes for a website banner. There are now 966 emails in the database. The Facebook ad developed to encourage resident to follow the FB page has been generated. Mayor Wharton would like the village email domain from .org to .gov.

Councilmember Carroll moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the following:

- a. Domain change to .gov*
- b. The March 9 meeting will be held at 6 pm*
- c. City Manager will set out remaining meetings of the year, including quarterly night/evening meeting*

Secretary Smith seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action on Walking Trail VTJ.003 Update

The Engineers submitted 90% of the plans for review by staff and Councilmember Robert Smith. The estimate for the survey and design services for which the City has already contracted is \$440,815.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding The Hills City Park & Nature Trail signage.

Ms. Smith showed 3 design schemes of the sign design provided.

Secretary Smith moved approval of the highlighted design for the The Hills City Park & Nature Trail sign; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

6. Discussion and possible action related to Greenbelt management

Wendy Smith presented a letter she and Mayor Pro Tem prepared for residents adjacent to greenbelts regarding greenbelt maintenance. Councilmember Thompson suggested including a document explaining Wildfire Mitigation practices. It was also suggested to place information on the website and refer to the website in the letter. It was then mentioned that the fire department has information on their website that can be included in the letter and also in the welcome packet.

7. Discussion and possible action related on Lohman's Crossing Gate traffic management

Traffic management signs have been proofed. Placement was discussed and is pending location of irrigation and water lines in the area. Also, a request has been made to the Engineer to review potential striping improvements. The use of The Hills gate driveway for U-turns was also discussed.

8. Discussion and possible action related to Noise and Nuisance Ordinance

Mayor Wharton stated that the City should have a Noise and Nuisance Ordinance on the books in case the need arises. The City Manager was asked to review other community ordinances and discuss with the City Attorney.

9. Discussion and possible action related to TexPool signatories

Councilmember Carroll moved approval of adding Mayor Wharton as a TexPool signatory; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS

- New business items to be included on the next agenda

There were no items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Mayor Wharton; seconded by Councilmember Carroll which carried unanimously, the Council went into Executive Session at 10:01 a.m.

The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §441.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

- Consultation with City attorney relating to capital project financing
- Consultation with City Attorney regarding legal issues associated with creating staggered terms of office for a Type B city
- Organizational Chart and Related Personnel Matters
- Sales Tax Information

The Council came out of Executive Session at 11:11 a.m.

Councilmember Carroll moved to repeal prior Ordinance 2020-004 approved July 2, 2020; Treasurer Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The City Manager was asked to review the Call of Election Ordinance.

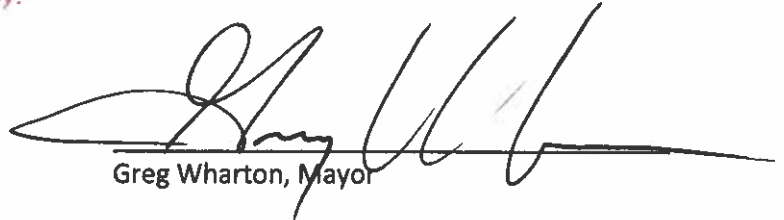
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich move to adjourn at 11:27am; Secretary Smith seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Signed this 9th day of March 2021.

(Seal)




Greg Wharton, Mayor


Linda Lunney, City Secretary